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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/743,490	12/23/2003	Nobuo Ichimura	062709-0124	7811

22428 7590 07/28/2004

FOLEY AND LARDNER
SUITE 500
3000 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20007

EXAMINER

HOOK, JAMES F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3752

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/743,490

Applicant(s)

ICHIMURA ET AL.

Examiner

James F. Hook

Art Unit

3752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/23/03; 4/15/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 5, 7, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cochran. The patent to Cochran discloses the recited flexible hose where the use of such for refrigerant is considered merely intended use where Cochran recites that his hose can be used for any materials where it is undesirable to have leakage escape and it is old and known that refrigerant leakage is not desirable, comprising an inner hose 10 formed of a plurality of layers including a reinforcing layer 16 sandwiched between inner and outer layers 14, 18, an outer hose covering the inner hose with a space and formed of a plurality of layers including a reinforcing layer 24, inner layer near 20 and outer layer 28, where the materials used for these layers are flexible and the layers can be formed of two or three layers, where the flow of material between the inner and the outer layer is at less of a pressure than the material inside the inner tube.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Stanley. The patent to Stanley discloses the recited flexible hose where the use of such for

Art Unit: 3752

refrigerant is considered merely intended use, comprising an inner hose 26 formed of a plurality of layers including a reinforcing layer 27 sandwiched between inner and outer layers 25,29, an outer hose 12 covering the inner hose with a space, where the materials used for these layers are flexible, where the flow of material between the inner and the outer layer is at less of a pressure than the material inside the inner tube, the outer material is more flexible as suggested in the summary of the invention, a connector having the same structure as required by the dependent claims is provided including having a crimped portion which is the equivalent of a caulked portion.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Grantham. The patent to Grantham discloses the recited flexible hose where the use of such for refrigerant is considered merely intended use, comprising an inner hose 12 formed of a plurality of layers including a reinforcing layer 52, an outer hose 16 covering the inner hose with a space, where the materials used for these layers are flexible, where the flow of material between the inner and the outer layer is at less of a pressure than the material inside the inner tube, the outer material is more flexible as suggested in column 2, lines 40-53, a connector having the same structure as required by the dependent claims is provided including having a crimped portion which is the equivalent of a caulked portion.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patents to Walker, Goto, Jonda, Martin (502 and 305),

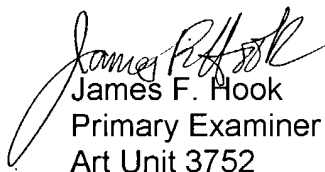
Art Unit: 3752

Muszynski (736 and 255), Foster, Skaggs, Youngs, Niki, Wilson, and Ikemoto disclosing state of the art spaced tubes.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James F. Hook whose telephone number is (703) 308-2913. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Wednesday, work at home Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Mar can be reached on (703) 308-2087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


James F. Hook
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3752

JFH